

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 8 and 17, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1 and 18, and add new Claim 72 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of Claims 1 and 18, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

1. (Twice Amended) A process for producing a sugar nucleotide, which comprises:

selecting, as enzyme sources, a) a culture broth of a microorganism capable of producing nucleoside-5'-triphosphate ("NTP") from a nucleotide precursor, or a treated product of the culture broth, and b) a culture broth or culture broths, of at least one strain of microorganism having genes responsible for production of a sugar nucleotide from NTP and a sugar selected from the group consisting of glucose, fructose, galactose, N-acetylglucosamine, N-acetylgalactosamine, mannose, N-acetylmannosamine and N-acetylneuraminic acid, or a treated product of the culture broth;

allowing the enzyme sources, the nucleotide precursor and the sugar to be present in an aqueous medium to form and accumulate the sugar nucleotide in the aqueous medium; and

recovering the sugar nucleotide from the aqueous medium.

18. (Amended) The process according to claim 72, wherein [at least one] the recombinant microorganism is selected from microorganisms belonging to the genus *Escherichia* and the genus *Corynebacterium*.

72. (New) The process according to claim 1, wherein the at least one strain of microorganism having genes responsible for production of a sugar nucleotide comprises a recombinant microorganism having at least one gene derived from a different microorganism, which is responsible for production of a sugar nucleotide.

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended in order to recite the present invention with the specificity required by statute.